

FACT SHEET

U.S. EPA – National Performance Track

NASA Ames Research Center

Moffett Field, California



INTRODUCTION

NASA Ames has been selected by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to join its National Environmental Performance Track (Performance Track) program in recognition of outstanding environmental management practices.

The Performance Track program is a voluntary partnership comprised of public and private organizations designed to recognize and encourage top environmental performers. Performance Track encourages members to go beyond compliance with regulatory requirements to attain levels of environmental performance and management that benefit people, communities, and the environment. The program was launched in June 2000 and has over 300 members.

NASA Ames was one of 37 new members of the program announced by EPA Administrator Christine Whitman at the Performance Track Members Event on April 9, 2003 in Washington, D.C.

EPA PERFORMANCE TRACK ENTRY CRITERIA

To qualify for Performance Track, a facility must:

- Adopt and implement an environmental management system (EMS);
- Demonstrate specific environmental achievements, and commit to continued environmental improvement;
- Commit to public outreach and performance reporting; and
- Have a record of sustained compliance with environmental requirements.

AMES ACHIEVEMENTS

NASA Ames is committed to improving environmental performance. Following are Ames' two most recent achievements:

1) 98% Reduced Pesticide & Fertilizer Use

Through the use of Integrated Pest Management and Integrated Vegetation Management, Ames has reduced the use of pesticides and chemical fertilizer from 4000 gallons per year in 1998 to 50 gallons per year in 2001. Methods used to attain this reduction include use of goats for vegetation control, traps for pest control, and composting for fertilizer.



2) Set Aside 81 Acres of Protected Burrowing Owl Habitat

As part of the development process for the NASA Research Park, 81 acres of burrowing owl habitat has been preserved. Future development of Moffett Field will not affect this habitat. Species specialists recommended that this habitat be preserved to ensure the sustainability of the burrowing owl species at Moffett Field. After negotiations, management agreed to set aside 81 acres of burrowing owl habitat to help ensure continuation of the species on the property.



AMES FUTURE COMMITMENTS

NASA Ames has committed to achieving the following four environmental goals:

1) Increase Western Pond Turtle Habitat

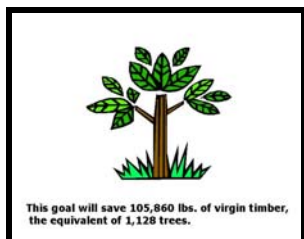
The western pond turtle is a California Species of Special Concern. In the summer of 2001 western pond turtles were found to inhabit the North Patrol Rd. Ditch, the Marriage Rd. Ditch and the Northern Channel at Moffett Field. Once Ames recognized that the species existed on the property, measures were taken to survey the species, involve the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Fish & Game, and start work on a management plan to help ensure preservation of this species and its habitat. The Environmental Services Office at NASA Ames is proactive in its efforts to preserve species and species habitat on the property.



2) Increase the Use of 100% Post-Consumer Recycled Chlorine-Free Paper

NASA Ames will increase the use of 100% post-consumer recycled chlorine-free paper to be 10% of the total white office paper used at the Center by:

- a) Working with logistics to ensure the reliable availability of an acceptable product at a reasonable price, and
- b) Increasing awareness of this product's performance and availability.



3) Reduce Total Energy Use

Through the use of performance-based contracts, NASA Ames plans to reduce center-wide energy use.



4) Reduce Industrial Water Use

Ames plans to reuse at least 50% of the cooling and industrial boiler water used primarily in the Arc Jet facility.



POINT OF CONTACT

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